AMERICA'S HIGHEST COURT Personnel of Justices of the Linited Special correspondence of The Florida Star.

WASHINGTON, Nov. 13.—Public inte est here and throughout the country is just now centered in the supreme court of the United States, which has before it the adjudication of one of the most important questions upon which that learned and dignified body has had to pass in recent years—that of the constitutional rights of the Porto Ricans and the Filipinos and the legal status of the islands acquired by this -country as a result of the war with Spain. Not since the controversy over the validity of the income tax law. which by a decision of five to four was declared to be unconstitutional, has the highest judicial tribunal of the nation been called upon to render a decision in which greater public interest has been manifested or in which there have been involved issues of greater commercial importance and political significance. Numerous and somewhat -conflicting decisions have been rendered by federal circuit and district courts on various phases of the general proposition respecting the rights and status of the inhabitants of the lately ac-

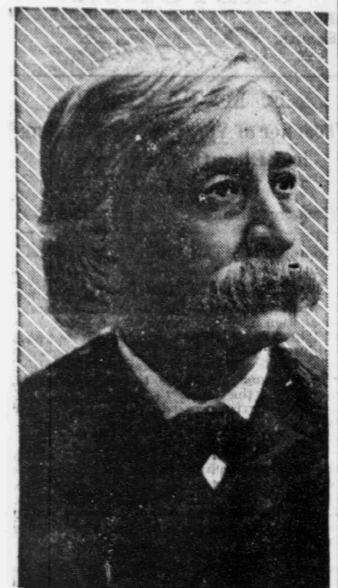


Photo by Clinedinst, Washington. CHIEF JUSTICE FULLER

quired territory, but the supreme court itself has not passed upon it, though the litigation has been pending for some time.

Under these circumstances and at this time something regarding the personnel of the supreme court may be of interest. At the head of the bench, occupying the exalted station filled by such great jurists as John Jay, John Marshall and Salmon P. Chase, stands Chief Justice Melville Weston Fuller, who was chosen by President Cleveland in 1888 to succeed the late Chief Justice Morrison R. Waite. Justice Fuller was a prominent member of the Chicago bar when appointed, though he had never held any judicial office. He was, however, well qualified for the position in ability, learning and character. He is said to have had a law practice in Chicago which brought him from \$30,000 to \$40,000 a year, and the highest, most important and most responsible position the president and congress can bestow upon a citizen brought him no pecuniary advantage. The chief justice receives a permanent salary of \$10,500 a year and the associate justices \$10,000. Melville Weston Fuller first saw the light of this world in Augusta, Me., on the 11th of February, 1833. He is a graduate of the Harvard Law school. In 1856 he established himself in the flourishing young city of Chicago, where he early attained and steadfastly maintained high professional rank.

On the right of the chief justice sits the associate justice who has been

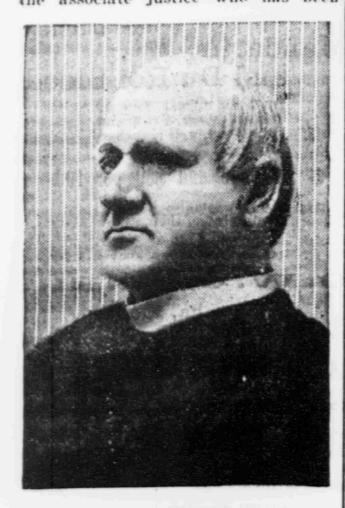


Photo by Clinedinst, Washington. JUSTICE HARLAN. longest on the bench. This is the posi-

the venerable and learned Justice Stephen 3. Field, whose head had become ered with the frost of age during his tong term of service. When he resigned on account of old age in 1897. dying some months afterward, Justice John Marshall Harian was, by virtue of official seniority, promoted to the place of bonor. He is a Kentuckian and was appointed to the supreme bench by President Hayes. He is a graduate of Center college, Kentucky, and studied law at Transylvania university. Justice Harian has become especially famous on account of his many strong dissenting opinions.

On the chief justice's left sits the physical giant of the court. Justice Horace Gray, who is 6 feet 4 inches

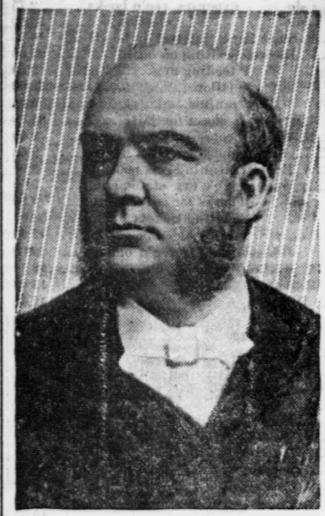


Photo by Clinedinst, Washington. JUSTICE GRAY.

in height and proportionately broad ble storehouse of legal knowledge, \$109,000. which is at his command at a moment's notice. His mind is of an unusually high order-not only well stored, but vigorous, logical and clear. Justice school and was appointed to his present position by President Arthur in

Next in the order of term of service is Justice David J. Brewer, having been appointed in 1889 by President Harrison. He is extremely popular bench. In character, learning and ability Judge Brewer is a true representative of the distinguished family to which he belongs-the Field family, his mother being a sister of the world renowned brothers. Until the retirement of Justice Stephen J. Field uncle and nephew sat together on the bench of floor, 334 Dearborn St., Chicago. the highest court in the land, a thing that had never before been recorded. Justice Brewer's father was a missionary in Asia Minor, and the son was born in Smyrna in 1839. He graduated from Yale in the now famous class of 1856, studied law in the office of his uncle, David Dudley Field, and finished his legal education at the Albany in malarial districts Tutt's Pills Law school.

Justice Henry B. Brown, who was appointed by President Harrison in

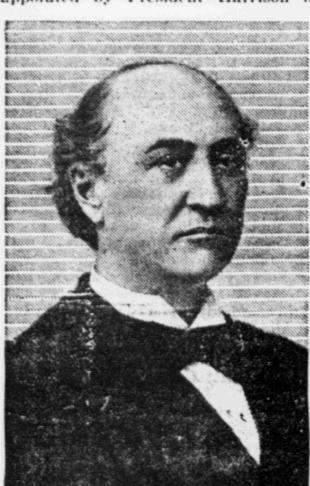


Photo by Clinedinst, Washington. JUSTICE BREWER.

1890, is a native of Massachusetts, a graduate of Harvard Law school. On the bench he is the personification of dignity, his strong, square cut, intellectual face is gravely attentive, and from head to foot he is a typical judge. But off the bench he is another man altogether-genial, debonair, throwing himself with almost boyish zest into SOFTENED BY ACE. whatever pursuits and pleasures opportunity offers.

Justice George Shiras was born in Pittsburg in 1832 and graduated from Is the best and purest Yale in 1853 in the same class with Minister Andrew D. White, Wayne MacVeagh and other prominent men. He stands over 6 feet high and holds himself very erect. His face in repose is rather grave and even severe, but it R. F. BALKE & CO., Proprietors, masks a wit so keen edged and original that it would be hard to find its match. Justice Edward Douglas White is a tion of honor. Here sat for many years | Louisianian. He is a typical southern

charm of manner which are characteristic of the New Orleans people. He is a man of commanding presence, tall and broad shouldered.

Justice Rufus W. Peck is a native of New York and a graduate of the Albany Law school. He was appointed to the supreme court by President Cleveland in 1895 and has a high reputation for learning, impartiality and general ability.

The latest appointment to the supreme bench is that of Justice Joseph McKenna, who was named by President McKinley in 1897 to take the place made vacant by the retirement of Justice Field. He is a native of Pennsylvania, though his life has mainly beer passed in California.

These briefly sketched are the eminent jurists who will now pass upon the constitutional rights of the Porto Ricans and the Filipinos.

SAMUEL HUBBARD.

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Six damage suits were filed in the city court of Atlanta last week against the Southern railway on account of the wreck which occurred at Belt Junction and stalwart. He is noted as a verita- on June 14, last, for a total amount of

A Night of Terror.

"Awful anxiety was felt for the widow of the brave Gen. Burnham, of Machias, Me., when the doctors said she could not Gray is a Bostonian, educated at Har- live till morning," writes Mrs. S. H. Linvard university and Harvard Law coln, who attended her that fearful night. "All thought she must soon die from pneumonia, but she begged for Dr. King's New Discovery, saying it had more than once saved her life, and had cured her of consumption. After three small doses she slept easily all night, and its further use completely cured her." This marvelous medicine is guaranteed to cure all throat, both socially and professionally and is chest and lung diseases. Only 50c and \$1. considered one of the ablest men on the Trial bottles free at B. R. Wilson & Son's drng store.

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